

## Policy to Decline Acceptance of Tobacco Industry Funding or Donations

### § Intent

- A. The Board of this Organization affirms that the intent of this Policy is to further the Organization's contribution to the sustainable growth, health and well being of our community, its citizens, its youth and its environment.
- B. This Board finds that tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States.
- C. This Board finds that smoking causes diseases in nearly every organ of the body; that it harms unborn babies, infants, children, adolescents, adults, and seniors, and is responsible for approximately one of every five deaths in the U.S.; and that in NYS there are 24,600 smoking attributable deaths annually.
- D. This Board finds that the use of tobacco products causes increased economic burden on health care systems and business productivity; and that in Tompkins County smoking related health care and lost productivity costs are \$36 million annually, including \$2.7 million spent on Medicaid.
- E. This Board finds that the Tobacco Industry continues to increase domestic marketing and promotion of cigarettes, with expenditures growing by 21 percent in one year to \$15.15 billion from 2002 to 2003, according to FTC documents.
- F. This Board finds that 70 percent of smokers want to quit, and in New York State 58 percent of daily smokers have tried to quit; and that the prevalence of advertising for cigarettes reduces current smokers resolve to quit or consider quitting, and encourages former smokers to resume smoking.
- G. This Board finds that as much as one third of underage experimentation with smoking is attributable to tobacco company marketing efforts; and that almost 90 percent of adult smokers began at or before age 18; and that every day an estimated 4,400 young people try cigarettes for the first time; and that more than one third of all youth who ever try cigarettes become regular, daily smokers before leaving high school.
- H. Furthermore, the Tobacco Industry seeks to profit through the sale of tobacco products.
- I. Therefore, the purpose of this Policy is to affirm that the Board is committed to acting in the best interest of all to whom we are responsible, including donors, funders and underwriters, staff and volunteers, and all those in the community who have and will come to rely on our services.

### § Definition

TOBACCO INDUSTRY — specifies these companies that produce and market branded tobacco products: Altria Group, Philip Morris USA, Philip Morris International, Reynolds America, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Sante Fe Natural Tobacco Co., Lane Limited, Loews Corporation, Lorillard Inc., Vector Group Ltd., Liggett Group Inc., Vector Tobacco Inc., U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Co. Inc. (UST), Houchens Industries, Inc., Commonwealth Brands, Inc.

### § Policy

This organization shall not accept any charitable funding, donations or underwriting in the form of cash, in-kind or planned giving from any organization specified by definition herein as a member or part of the Tobacco Industry.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_